



Criminal Justice System

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIR:

John Casbon

Call for Action



Hurricanes Katrina and Rita severely damaged law enforcement, prosecution, and judicial infrastructure in several Louisiana parishes.

- Our courts, jails, prosecutors' offices, police stations, evidence rooms, and crime labs were flooded.
- 9-1-1 call centers and most police vehicles were wrecked.
- Witnesses and suspects were dispersed.
- Employees' homes were rendered uninhabitable.
- Operating budgets evaporated.

Criminal justice agencies have responded heroically.
New Orleans is safe.

Mission



- The Southeast Louisiana Criminal Justice Recovery Task Force, a joint task force proposed by Vice Admiral Thad Allen, and comprising the police and sheriff's departments of Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard and Plaquemines Parishes is now:
 - Providing a forum for local and state law enforcement, prosecutors, indigent defenders, clerks of court, and courts to present their needs to federal agencies in a coordinated and transparent manner in order to avoid duplication of effort and to facilitate regionalization of functions.
 - Providing local and state criminal justice entities, in concert with the region's business, non-profit, and academic communities, a forum to rethink and improve their services and to improve public trust in the criminal justice system.
 - Crafting policies for emergency public safety services and continuity of operations in the event of future natural disasters or terrorist attacks.
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Goals

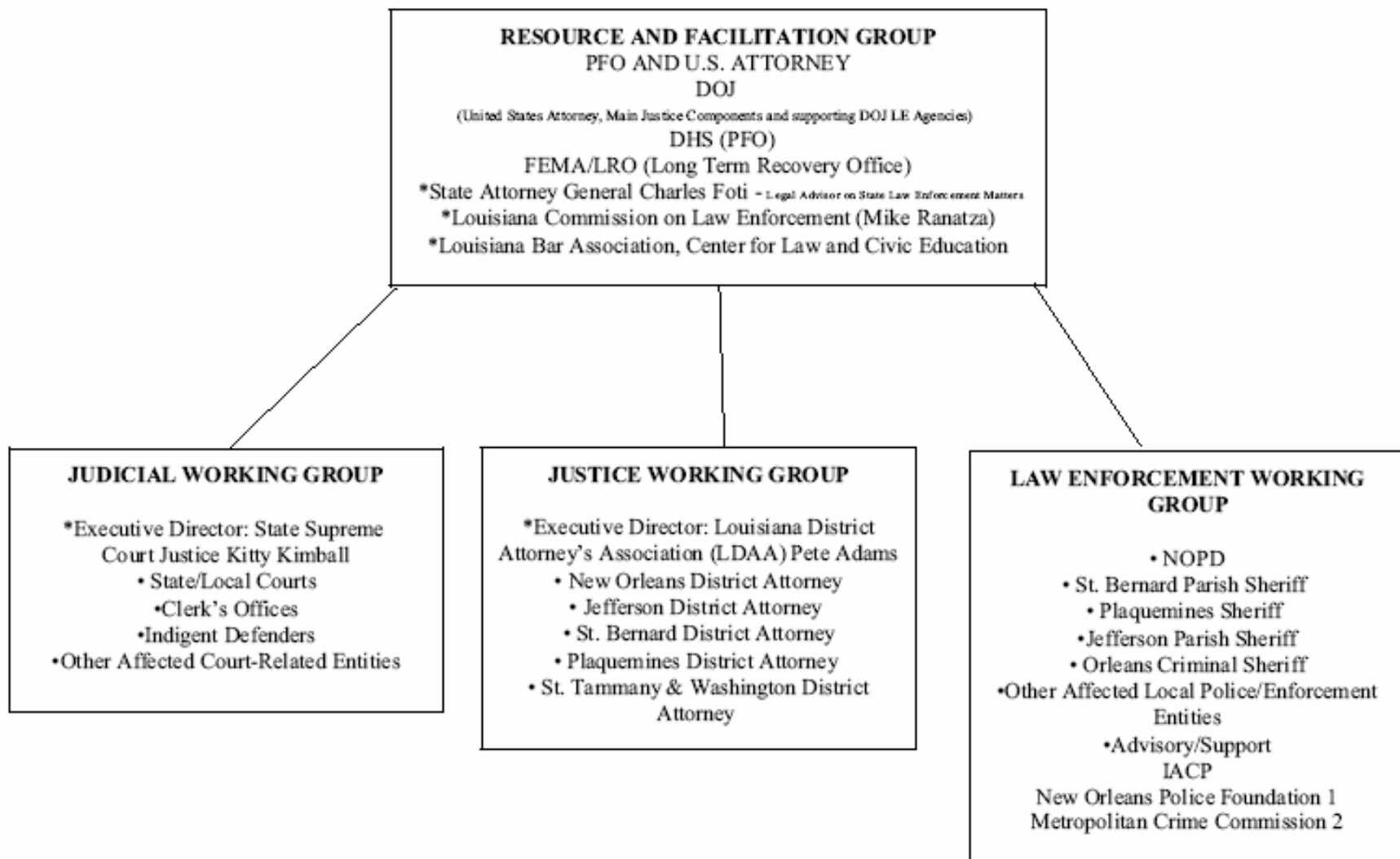


- **Housing:** to identify and remedy housing needs for employees currently lacking housing or whose temporary housing is limited in duration
- **Budgets:** to identify and strategically remedy budgetary gaps
- **Regional Efficiencies:** to identify services that may be regionalized for greater efficiency and improved probability of funding
- **Emergency Public Safety:** to craft policies and clearly-delineated lines of leadership based upon lessons learned in this and other crises for emergency services in the event of a future natural or man-made disaster
- **Continuity of Government:** to create policies for protecting inventory, evidence and information systems; for tracking detainees, inmates, and witnesses; and for providing housing to essential employees
- To improve public trust through **transparency and accountability.**

Task Force Design



- The task force is divided into three committees:
 - 1) ***Law enforcement***
 - 2) ***Prosecution***
 - 3) ***Courts***
 - Each committee is comprised of state and local officials under the leadership of a respected, neutral official.
 - The Resource and Facilitation Group is overseeing cooperation among state and local entities and communication with federal grant-making agencies, particularly the Department of Homeland Security, including FEMA, and the Department of Justice.
 - The federal role is to facilitate, not to dictate or lead, the work of the task force.
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* Advisory Role on Resource and Facilitation Group

- 1 NOPF will participate in all three committees due to their broad role
- 2 MCC will participate in all three committees due to their broad role.

Law Enforcement Working Together



Criminals do not respect parish boundaries.

Law enforcement agencies in the greater New Orleans region have pledged to work together

- Combining resources
 - Sharing information
 - Improving services and responsiveness
 - Communicating efficiently and effectively
 - Improving transparency and accountability
 - Preparing emergency coordination plans
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Deliverables



- **1** state-of-the-art crime lab for the region
 - **1** state-of-the-art DNA lab for the region
 - **1** police academy and training facility
 - **1** emergency coordination plan
 - **1** interoperable communications system
 - **1** intelligence sharing system
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Deliverables



- Independent Advisory Board for NOPD
 - ❑ Comprised of respected police chiefs from around the nation
 - Ft. Worth, TX
 - Las Vegas, NV
 - Louisville, KY
 - Montgomery County, MD
 - Nassau County, NY
 - Sacramento, CA
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Benefits



- Efficiency
- Transparency
- Accountability
- Responsibility
 - Public Trust
- Safety for All